

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A video camera comprising:

a camera body unit having at least an image pickup unit and a circuit board;

5 a grip unit having at least a disc drive mechanism; and
a rotary mechanism which connects the grip unit rotatably to one side face of the camera body unit,

wherein the rotary mechanism connects the grip unit to the camera body unit in such a manner that a diametrical direction
10 of the grip unit is parallel to an optical axis of a camera lens, and the disc drive mechanism has a medium receptacle portion provided in parallel with the circuit board.

2. A video camera according to claim 1,

wherein the grip unit comprises a medium insertion
15 aperture for insertion of a recording medium into the medium receptacle portion and a case unit adapted to expose and shield the medium insertion aperture, the case unit being adapted to slide in a direction parallel to the rotary mechanism.

3. A video camera according to claim 1,

20 wherein a liquid crystal display monitor unit is provided on an opposite side face of the camera body unit in parallel with the optical axis of the camera lens, and

the liquid crystal display monitor unit is disposed rotatably through an axis vertical to the optical axis of the
25 camera lens.

4. A video camera according to claim 3,

wherein the grip unit is provided on a peripheral surface thereof with a liquid crystal display monitor, the liquid crystal display monitor being adapted to move with rotation of the grip unit.

5. A video camera according to claim 4,

wherein the grip unit is provided on the peripheral surface thereof with an operating unit, the operating unit being constructed such that, in an open condition of the liquid crystal display monitor unit, an operating function for the liquid crystal display monitor unit is set, while in a closed condition of the liquid crystal display monitor unit, an operating function for the liquid crystal display monitor is set.

6. A video camera comprising:

15 a camera body unit containing an image pickup unit and a circuit board of various circuits;

a rotary grip provided on one side face of the camera body unit so as to be rotatable relative to the camera body unit;

a liquid crystal display monitor disposed integrally on a peripheral surface of the rotary grip; and

an operating unit disposed integrally on the peripheral surface of the rotary grip.

7. A video camera according to claim 6,

wherein the rotary grip contains a disc drive.

25 8. A video camera according to claim 6,

wherein a power supply is turned on and off by rotation in a predetermined angular range of the rotary grip.

9. A video camera according to claim 6,

wherein a liquid crystal display monitor unit is provided
5 on an opposite side face of the camera body unit so as to be rotatable in a predetermined angular range from said side face around a vertical shaft parallel to said side face.

10. A video camera according to claim 9,

wherein, in an abutted state of the liquid crystal display
10 monitor unit against the side face of the camera body unit, a screen display is provided by the liquid crystal display monitor, while in a rotated state of the liquid crystal display monitor unit from its position on the side face of the camera
body unit, a screen display is provided by the liquid crystal
15 display monitor unit.

11. A video camera according to claim 10,

wherein the operating unit has an operating member for causing a menu display to be provided in the liquid crystal display monitor or in the liquid crystal display monitor unit
20 and for performing operations on the menu display.